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Message Text

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62
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EA:RHMILLER:CB
APPROVED BY EA - MR. HABIB
S/S - LCJOHNSTONE
NSC - LT.GEN. SCOWCROFT
D -THE ACTING SECRETARY (DRAFT)
S:LBREMER
---------- 114413
O 282026Z JUN 75 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 153466 TOSEC 050013

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, LA, US

SUBJECT: ACTION MEMORANDUM - RENEWAL OF HARASSMENT IN LAOS
(S/S NO.7513197)

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM HABIB THRU INGERSOLL

1. THERE HAS BEEN RENEWED HARASSMENT AGAINST OUR PERSONNEL AND PROPERTY IN VIENTIANE (TAB 3 - VIENTIANE 4598, 4604 AND 4603 - REPEATED SEPARATELY). WE PROPOSE TO INSTRUCT CHARGE CHAPMAN THAT IF IT CONTINUES HE IS TO SEE SOUVANNA AND THE SENIOR AVAILABLE OFFICIAL IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY (PHOUMI IS STILL ABSENT) AND TELL THEM THAT UNLESS ALL HARASSMENT CEASES FORTHWITH WE WILL BE OBLIGED TO CLOSE OUR EMBASSY AND WITHDRAW ALL OUR PERSONNEL. WE WOULD NOT CHARACTERIZE THIS AS A BREAK IN RELATIONS BUT AS A CLOSURE OF THE EMBASSY DUE TO ITS INABILITY TO FUNCTION NORMALLY. WE WOULD ALSO AUTHORIZE CHAPMAN TO CLOSE THE MISSION AND WITHDRAW ALL PERSONNEL IF IN HIS JUDGMENT
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HARASSMENT REACHES A POINT OF VIOLATING US DIGNITY OR OF ENDANGERING US CITIZENS. CHAPMAN WOULD ADVISE US OF HIS DECISION IN ADVANCE IF POSSIBLE, BUT COULD PROCEED ON THE BASIS OF THESE INSTRUCTIONS IF NECESSARY.

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2. WE ALSO PROPOSE TO ASK JAPANESE TO BE OUR PROTECTING

POWER IF WE ARE FORCED TO CLOSE THE EMBASSY.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT YOU APPROVE THE TRANSMISSION BY THE DEPARTMENT
TO OUR CHARGE IN VIENTIANE THE CABLE AT TAB 1.

APPROVE -------- DISAPPROVE----------

2. THAT YOU APPROVE THE TRANSMISSION BY THE DEPARTMENT
TO EMBASSY TOKYO THE CABLE AT TAB 2.

APPROVE---------- DISAPPROVE----------
CLEARED: EA - MR. HABIB D - MR. INGERSOLL S-MR. BREMER
NSC - GEN. SCOWCROFT
TAB 1: PROPOSED CABLE-SECRETARY TO CHAPMAN IN VIENTIANE
ACTION: VIENTIANE - IMMEDIATE NIACT
INFO: BANGKOK, CINCPAC - IMMEDIATE NIACT
REF: VIENTIANE 4598, 4604 AND 4603

EXDIS

1. IF HARASSMENT AGAINST EMBASSY CONTINUES YOU
ARE INSTRUCTED TO SEE SOUVANNE AND TOP FOREIGN MINISTRY
OFFICIAL AVAILABLE AND TO TELL THEM THAT UNLESS ALL
HARASSMENT AGAINST AMERICANS CEASES IMMEDIATELY, YOU
WILL HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO CLOSE THE MISSION AND
WITHDRAW ALL AMERICAN PERSONNEL. YOU SHOULD NOT RPT
NOT CHARACTERIZE THIS AS A BREAK IN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS,
BUT ONLY AS THE CLOSING OF THE MISSION DUE TO ITS
INABILITY TO FUNCTION NORMALLY. YOU SHOULD EMPHASIZE
THAT WE HAVE TRIED TO ACCOMMODATE TO EVERY LEGITIMATE
AND OFFICIAL PGNU DEMAND, BUT THAT WE CANNOT TOLERATE
CONTINUING WILLFUL HARASSMENT AND INTERFERENCE DIRECTED
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AGAINST THE EMBASSY IN DISREGARD OF ALL NORMAL INTER-
NATIONAL DIPLOMATIC PRACTICE. YOU SHOULD MAKE CLEAR
THAT YOU ARE SPEAKING UNDER INSTRUCTIONS.

2. YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO CLOSE THE MISSION, WITHDRAW
ALL PERSONNEL BY USE OF MISSION OR COMMERCIAL MEANS AS
FEASIBLE, AND TO ADVISE ALL NON-OFFICIAL AMERICANS TO
LEAVE WHENEVER IN YOUR JUDGMENT HARASSMENT REACHES
INTOLERABLE LIMITS FROM STANDPOINT OF USG DIGNITY OR OF
YOUR PLANS IN ADVANCE, BUT IF NECESSARY YOU CAN PROCEED
ON THE BASIS OF THESE INSTRUCTIONS.

3. IF THESE STEPS BECOME NECESSARY YOU ARE ALSO TO

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CEASE ALL RESIDUAL RICE SHIPMENTS UNDER 1975 MAP.
4. BY SEPARATE MESSAGE WE ARE ALERTING JAPANESE TO

POSSIBLE REQUEST TO SERVE AS OUR PROTECTING POWER IN
LAOS.

TAB 2: PROPOSED CABLE FROM SECRETARY TO AMBASSADOR
HODGSON IN TOKYO:
ACTION: TOKYO - IMMEDIATE NIACT

INFO: VIENTIANE, CINCPAC, BANGKOK - IMMEDIATE NIACT

EXDIS

YOU SHOULD SEE SENIOR AVAILABLE OFFICIAL IN FOREIGN
MINISTRY SOONEST TO SAY THAT WE MAY BE FORCED TO CLOSE
OUR EMBASSY IN VIENTIANE SHORTLY IN VIEW OF RENEWED,
WILLFUL HARASSMENT AND INTERFERENCE AGAINST OUR PERSONNEL
AND PROPERTY AND AGAINST ALL NORMS OF ACCEPTED INTER-
NATIONAL DIPLOMATIC PRACTICE. WE WOULD NOT INTEND THIS
TO BE A BREAK IN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH LAOS, BUT
ONLY A CLOSING OF THE MISSION DUE TO ITS INABILITY TO
FUNCTION NORMALLY. YOU SHOULD INDICATE THAT, IF THIS
OCCURS, WE WOULD HOPE THAT JAPANESE COULD AGREE TO SERVE
AS PROTECTING POWER FOR OUR INTERESTS IN LAOS. IF THE
JAPANESE AGREE TO DO SO, THEY SHOULD APPROPRIATELY
INSTRUCT THEIR EMBASSY IN VIENTIANE IMMEDIATELY SO THAT
OUR CHARGE MAY MAKE APPROPRIATE TURNOVER ARRANGEMENTS
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IF EVENTS MAKE IT NECESSARY. INGERSOLL

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